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	CCO-00	CG-00	COME-00	CTME-00	OASY-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00
	DS-00	EB-01	FAAE-00	H-01	IMMC-01	TEDE-00	INR-00
	INSE-00	IO-16	JUSE-00	LOC-01	L-01	ADS-00	M-00
	NEA-01	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OIS-01	OMB-01
	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00
	SS-00	STR-01	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01
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TO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY PANAMA  
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DOJ FOR DBIEHL; CTC FOR WWILEY; FBI FOR RBLITZER

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: PTER, PGOV, PREL, PHUM, AR

SUBJECT: ARGENTINE CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON LEGAL REFORM

FBI FOR RBLITZER

FAA FOR CFLYNN

OASD/SOLIC FOR BG TAYLOR

REF: (A) STATE 256010 (NOTAL); (B) BUENOS AIRES 6311 (NOTAL); (C) BUENOS AIRES 51307Z

1. THIS IS AN ACTION REQUEST.

2. THE DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED WITH INVITATIONS TO ARGENTINE PARLIAMENTARIANS TO VISIT WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATIONS ON LAW REFORM AND COUNTERTERRORIST LAW ENFORCEMENT. THIS INITIATIVE WAS RECOMMENDED BY ARGENTINE MINISTER OF INTERIOR RUCKAUF DURING THE SEPTEMBER VISIT TO BUENOS AIRES BY S/CT COORDINATOR WILCOX.

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3. BASED ON RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH DCM GODDARD, WE PROPOSE TO INVITE SIX-TO-TEN PARLIAMENTARIANS (AND PERHAPS CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS) CHOSEN FROM THE POLITICAL PARTIES FOR A 2-1/2 DAY PROGRAM MID-TO-LATE FEBRUARY. WE PROPOSE, TENTATIVELY, FEBRUARY 23-25, DEPENDING ON THE DATE OF THE FEBRUARY RECESS FOR THE U.S. CONGRESS. THE INVITEES WILL BE SELECTED BY THE EMBASSY. INVITEES WILL BE EXPECTED TO PAY FOR THEIR OWN

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4. THE PURPOSE OF THIS CONSULTATION IS TO PROVIDE THE ARGENTINE PARLIAMENTARIANS INFORMATION AND INSIGHTS INTO LEGISLATIVE OPTIONS TO STRENGTHEN INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION AND CONVICTION OF TERRORISTS AND OTHER CRIMINALS, AND TO ENSURE THAT DUE PROCESS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES ARE PROTECTED IN THE PROCESS. THE CONSULTATIONS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE TERRORIST BOMBING OF THE AMIA BUILDING IN BUENOS AIRES AND IN THE CONTEXT OF THE MENEM ADMINISTRATION'S PROPOSALS FOR LAW REFORM WHICH ARE NOW PENDING BEFORE THE ARGENTINE PARLIAMENT.

5. THE PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS, SUBJECT TO REVISION.

-- A BRIEFING BY HOUSE JUDICIARY AND HFAC MEMBERS TO PROVIDE POLITICAL FRAMEWORK WHICH SHAPES LAW, PARTICULARLY THE BALANCE BETWEEN THE "TOUGH ON CRIME" APPROACH AND CIVIL LIBERTIES CONCERNS.

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-- FBI AND DOJ WORKSHOPS TO DISCUSS HANDLING OF MAJOR COUNTERTERRORISM AND CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS, THE WITNESS SECURITY PROGRAM AND STATUTES WHICH GOVERN ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE IN CASES WHICH APPLY TO TERRORISM.

-- BRIEFINGS BY DOJ ON U.S. LAWS WHICH CAN BE APPLIED TO TERRORIST INVESTIGATIONS.

-- POSSIBLE VISIT TO FBI FORENSIC LAB.

-- CONSULTATIONS WITH EXPERTS FROM THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS AND ACADEMIC EXPERTS ON CRIMINAL LAW WHICH CAN BE APPLIED TO TERRORIST CASES, PROTECTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS, LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT AND CONTROLS ON SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE SERVICES IN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES AND COMPARATIVE EXPERIENCE OF OTHER

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GOVERNMENTS IN ACCOMPLISHING LAW REFORM.

6. WE WILL BE REFINING THIS AGENDA FURTHER, AND WOULD

WELCOME EMBASSY'S COMMENTS IN ORDER TO TAILOR THE PROGRAM MORE PRECISELY TO ARGENTINA'S NEEDS AND CURRENT ISSUES BEING DEBATED THERE. WE WILL NEED A OBTAIN COPY OF THE DRAFT LAW UNDER CONSIDERATION BY CONGRESS AS SOON AS IT CAN BE OBTAINED.

7. IN ADDITION TO THIS CONSULTATION WITH ARGENTINE PARLIAMENTARIANS ON LAW REFORM, WE ALSO PLAN TO INVITE  
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SENIOR COUNTERTERRORISM AND SECURITY OFFICIALS FROM THE FOUR SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES AND BRAZIL TO WASHINGTON IN MARCH 1995 TO DISCUSS COUNTERTERRORISM COOPERATION. WE WILL PROPOSE THIS CONFERENCE, ALSO REQUESTED BY ARGENTINE INTERIOR MINISTER RUCKAUF, SEPTTEL.

TALBOTT

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